



City Update

News and Information for City of Saint Paul Employees

November 19, 1999

Inside This Issue

Local Sights in Movies and Commercials

Vendor Show

Canine Unit Seeks German Shepherds

Discounts Available To City Employees

Job Openings

Mayor

Norm Coleman

Council Members

Jerry Blakey

Christopher Coleman

Michael Harris

Jay Benanav

Jim Reiter

Dan Bostrom

Kathy Lantry

A Little Bit of Hollywood In Our Own Backyard

Recognize the ledge in the current Polaris snowmobile television commercial? The spot was filmed on the corner of 4th Street and St. Peter. The City of Saint Paul hosted a number of commercial productions in 1999, plus two major feature films, bringing approximately \$5 million into our local economy.

1999 will also be remembered as the year Jack Nicholson and Sean Penn were sighted in City Hall. Scouting for THE PLEDGE, a feature film, Nicholson was easily recognized in his leopard print shoes and red baseball cap. While scouting City Hall, Penn immediately began snapping photos of our building, hoping it would work with his script. Unfortunately, the project went to Canada.

The Minnesota Film Board and the City of Saint Paul work in partnership to attract film and commercial production to this area. Despite the beautiful locations and quality film crews in our area, both the state and city have been facing greater international competition. The fact that two feature films and so many commercials were made here in 1999 shows that we have a world class, quality network for film production.

The Polaris ad was created almost entirely by local crew members, many of whom are Saint Paul residents. The City of Saint Paul departments of Public Works, Police, and Marketing collaborated to ensure the shoot

operated safely and without problems. Producers enjoy shooting in Saint Paul for many reasons. We don't have the red tape that many cities do, we are open to trying new ideas and we are responsive to the urgent nature of film production.

At first, neither of the two major feature films had planned on shooting in Saint Paul. The City of Saint Paul won them over one step at a time. First, the Saint Paul Hotel put up the 20th Century Fox scouts from Los Angeles. While they wanted to use Energy Park Studios for office space, and the village of Welch, MN, as their primary location, Saint Paul locations had not yet made the cut. Once they settled in and got to know staff with the City of Saint Paul Parks and Rec, Public Works, Police, and Marketing Departments, three more Saint Paul locations were added. Each location meant more dollars spent in local hardware stores, restaurants and other businesses.

The movie, HERE ON EARTH, should be released next summer. Starring Chris Kline (ELECTION, AMERICAN PIE) and Leelee Sobieski (EYES WIDE SHUT, JOAN OF ARC TV miniseries) the romance/drama is geared

see Film Industry, page 4

Saint Paul
Celebrating 150 Years

New Look at HealthPartners Web Site!

HealthPartners recently redesigned their web site, www.healthpartners.com. It's easier to use and includes new health improvement information, such as:

- **The Diabetes Risk Quiz.** More than 20 million Americans are at risk for Type II (adult onset) diabetes; more than 8 million Americans have diabetes and don't know it! Take this quiz to learn about your risk factors and how to reduce them.
- **Detailed Health Information.** Want to quit smoking? This web site offers tips to help you start! Interested in attending a class? Find out about classes offered by HealthPartners, and learn about resources available in your neighborhood. Check out HealthPartners' list of heart-healthy habits. Or, read their weight management tips if you're concerned about avoiding weight gain in the Winter months.
- **The Consumer Choice System.** For the latest information about clinics and physicians available in the HealthPartners Plus plan, check out this up-to-date source that lists each clinic, including physician biographies, and much more!
- **HealthPartners News and Events.** This category is updated and added to on a regular basis. Check it out for new ideas to maintain health, and learn about HealthPartners programs of interest to you!

Night & Day SNOW PLOWING INFORMATION

Snow emergencies are just around the corner. Avoid a ticket and a tow by getting to know Saint Paul's "Night & Day" snow plowing system:

Declaring a Snow Emergency: When Saint Paul gets 3" or more of snow OR any accumulation of 3" of snow over several days, you can expect the City to declare a Snow Emergency.

Night Plow Routes: Plowed from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. the night a Snow Emergency is declared. All Night Plow Routes are marked by signs.

Day Plow Routes: Plowed from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. normally following night plowing. These routes are east-west residential streets PLUS one side of north-south residential streets.

Ticket and Tow: The fine for a "snow tag" is \$40. Towing can result in substantial towing and storage fees.

Information: Visit www.stpaul.gov or call 651-266-PLOW.

Holiday Shopping at City Hall

Vendor Show Features Onsite Candy Sale

The Employee Services Committee is hosting a Vendor Show on December 8, 1999 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in City Hall conference rooms 40 A&B and room 41.

The Vendor Show is a great opportunity to take care of some of your holiday shopping. This year's Vendor Show features onsite sales of Abdallah Candy, Books Are Fun and Honey Glow Candles. Vendors participating in this year's event include:

Abdallah Candy
Associated Hearing
Books are Fun
City of Shoreview
Colleen's Draperies
Grand Slam Sports & Entertainment
Honey Baked Ham Store
Honey Glow Candles
Jiffy Lube
Pls Fleet Service

For more information call Jody Valento-Winkler at 266-6677.

Children's Museum Tickets

The Employee Services Committee is selling discount tickets for the Children's Museum. The tickets are valid anytime.

Tickets for ages 3 to 60 are \$4.50 (regular price \$5.95); Tickets for toddler 1 and 2 years old and seniors over age 60 are \$3.00 (regular price \$3.95).



Current exhibits at the Children's Museum include Hop on Pop, an interactive, life-size display from Dr. Suess classics including Cat in the Hat, Green Eggs and Ham, and One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish.

The Children's Museum validates parking up to three hours for \$1.00 at the 7th Street Municipal Ramp, which is connected by skyway. For tickets call Theresa Sullivan at 266-8812.





Wanted: Male German Shepherds Saint Paul Police Canine Unit Seeks New Dogs

The Saint Paul Police Department is asking the public to consider donating male German Shepherd dogs, between the ages of one and three years, to the its nationally-recognized Canine Unit. The dogs will be trained for service as new members of the canine unit.

Historically, the donation of the German Shepherds has been a major factor in controlling the cost of operating the Canine Unit.



“Every five to seven years, we rotate new officers into the canine unit,” said Lt. John Ballis, the leader of the unit. “Because of the special relationship between a human police officer and their canine partner, we must have new canines introduced whenever we bring new officers into the unit.”

The criteria for the new canine recruits is very exacting. They must obviously be intelligent, healthy and strong. Additionally, they must also exhibit traits of patience, sociability, tolerance, responsibility and loyalty.

Once accepted, the new canines will go through a minimum of 14 weeks of basic training relative to obedience, agility, tracking, evidence recovery, building searches and criminal apprehension. There is also the possibility of many additional weeks of training in speciality areas, such as drug and explosive identification.

The Saint Paul Canine Unit is comprised of 21 human officers and their canine partners. Over the years, the Saint Paul Unit has distinguished itself as one of the best Canine Units in the United States, having won the United States Police Canine Associations National Championship five times. It has also won “top” department team national honors in 1989, 1990, 1991, 1994, 1995 and 1997.

To donate a male German Shepherd to the Canine Unit, please call 651-292-3773 or 651-292-3782.

Did You Know....

The Minnesota Employees Recreation Services Council (MERSC) and Employee Services Management Association (ESMA) have discounts available with a wide variety of companies.



For most discounts, employees need to show their City ID or pay stub. Some of the current discounts available include: Mr. Tire, Target Center, Ordway Theater, Underwater World, Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, Minnesota Science Museum, Kahler Grand Hotel, Old Log Theater and the Plymouth Playhouse.

The Employee Services Committee has the latest information with MERSC and EMS discounts for City employees. Contact one of the Employee Services Committee members below or call Jody Winkler at 266-6677.

The Employee Services Committee members are Geri Boyd, Human Resources; Dave Hostrawser, Parks and Recreation; Myra Larson, Human Rights; Marlene Maurer, Human Resources; John Moriarty, Public Works; Sally Storms, Libraries; Theresa Sullivan, Financial Services; Linda Thurston, Water Utility; Jody Valento-Winkler, PED; Michelle Van Heel, Citizen Services Office; Benny Williams, Police.

150 Trivia

November 19 Trivia Question

Q: In what year did Saint Paul's streetcars give way to buses?

November 5 Trivia Question & Answer

Q: What was the name of the saloon where the Barker-Karpis gang met with elite members of the Midwest underworld on Dec. 31, 1931?

A: The Green Lantern, which was owned by Harry Sawyer and located at 545 Wabasha

Film Industry (continued from page 1)

toward teens. Film crews worked at Summit Avenue, Hidden Falls and Lake Phalen, checking carefully to ensure each location was replaced to its original pristine condition after the shoot.

New Line Cinema had planned on shooting most of their film in Minneapolis. Luckily, a warehouse off Hampden and University met their office needs to perfection. With bright orange carpet, and the lingering smell of peanuts (being the former home of Fischer Nuts) they set up wardrobe, props, and a special accessory - a Darth Maul inflatable chair. The film's writer, Lona Williams, originates from Minnesota, and has had success writing for the Drew Carey Show and another New Line film, DROP DEAD GORGEOUS. Look for Arlington High School, (renamed Lincoln High for creative purposes) Lincoln Avenue between Grotto and Avon, and Concord Drug in next year's teen flick, SUGAR AND SPICE.

City Update

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City Update is a bi-weekly newsletter for City employees published by the Citizen Service Office of the City of Saint Paul. Submission deadline is noon on Tuesday, one week before payday. Call 266-8528 for information or for a calendar.

City Update Seeks Stories and Employees

If you are working on a new project, have some news to share about your department or know an employee who deserves special recognition, email city.update@ci.stpaul.mn.us or call 651-266-8528.

Job Openings as of November 19, 1999

Application Deadline	Job Title	Bi-Weekly or Hourly Salary Rate	Exam Date
11/30/99	Accountant IV	\$1989.91	12/07/99
Open	Clerk-Typist II - Spanish/Bilingual Speaking	\$23,758.00 (ANNUAL)	TBN
Open	Communications Technician	\$1359.09	Quals
Open	Communications Technician Trainee	\$1111.53	Quals
Open	Conservatory Attendant	\$8.82 per hr	Quals
Open	Engineering Aide II	\$1084.28	TBN
Open	**Food Service Assistant (part-time)	\$8.43 per hr	See Job Ann
Open	Food Service Helper (part-time)	\$7.75 per hr	See Job Ann
11/29/99	Food Service Supervisor II	\$11.87 per hr	12/03/99
Open	IS Information/Technical Analyst II	\$1326.60	Quals
Open	IS Information/Technical Analyst III	\$1470.98	Quals
Open	IS Information/Technical Analyst IV	\$1674.26	Quals
Open	IS Systems Support Specialist II	\$1089.46	Quals
Open	IS Systems Support Specialist III	\$1326.60	Quals
Open	Library Clerk (part-time)	\$9.23 per hr	Quals
11/22/99	Mail Clerk - BOE	\$837.14	11/30/99
12/23/99	Ski Instructor (seasonal/part-time)	\$7.00 per hr	See Job Ann
Open	Telecommunicator	\$1242.48	Quals
Open	Ticket Sellers - River Centre (part-time)	\$5.50 per hr (in training)	TBN
11/29/99	Transportation Coordinator II	\$1492.30	12/06/99

****This is a walk-in examination. Do not submit a job application before the test.** Note: Call or visit the Office of Human Resources at 400 City Hall Annex to receive the official job announcement for these positions. Phone: (651) 266-6500 (TTY/TDD 651-266-6501). For jobs announced after November 10, please call the 24-hour job line, (651) 266-6502.